First 30 Days of Season 29

Announcements Miss Buffalo Jan 5, 2023

Hello Xbox Ambassadors! Welcome to Season 29, the Season of the Timekeeper. In fiction, Timekeepers are powerful beings with the ability to manipulate time. Although we cannot *actually* travel back in time or take glimpses into the future, we can use this time to reflect on all the amazing things that happened in 2022 and get excited about what's to come. Let's go!

The Xbox Ambassadors Accessibility Explorer Path

Toward the end of 2022, we introduced the Accessibility Explorer Path to the Missions page. Designed to teach Xbox Ambassadors all about accessibility, it has been a highly engaging experience so far. In November, we shared that more than 150,000 accessibility Missions were completed. Today, we are pleased to announce that the Xbox Ambassadors community has reached 387,000 mission completions from the Accessibility Explorer Path. That's 87,000 more than our initial goal of 300,000 by the end of Season 28! Thank you to everyone who has joined the path in an effort to make gaming fun for everyone.

To commemorate this achievement, we'll be rewarding Ambassadors on the path with badges on the Xbox Ambassadors website. The more Missions you complete, the more your badge will evolve in your Xbox Ambassadors profile. You can expect to see these badges go live this month. In the meantime, head over to the Missions page to unlock XP through the Accessibility Explorer Path!

Global Accessibility Awareness Day is on May 18, and we thought it would be motivating to target GAAD for our next goal of reaching 1-million Missions completions on the Accessibility Explorer Path. Up for the challenge, Ambassadors?

While Accessibility was the inaugural Explorer Path, we look forward to launching more topics over the next few Seasons! Stay tuned.

Xbox Ambassador Stories

Raising voices from the Xbox Ambassador community was a true highlight of 2022. We celebrated some stories, learned from others, and across the board, saw that Gaming is for Everyone. Here are some of the moments to take you down memory lane and a few quotes to give a little extra inspiration.

- Black History Month
- Women's History Month
- Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month 2022
- Mental Health Awareness Month
- Global Accessibility Awareness Day
- Pride Month
- Disability Pride Month
- International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples
- Hispanic Heritage Month

"Games that feature Black characters have impacted me in a way that allows me to see myself in a positive light. Every time I see a new Black character in my games, I am hopeful. It shows me that Black people are going into the gaming world and changing what is considered normal. Fortnite is one of, if not, my favorite game and they are excellent with representation.

They released a skin named Joy who is a Black woman with roller-skates and vitiligo.

1. Skating is a major activity for many Black people.
2. Vitiligo isn't always represented in a good way.

So once I saw Joy in the item shop, I bought the skin almost immediately and was overwhelmed with joy (heh) seeing a Black Woman in my FAVORITE Game! I played using that skin for a month straight. Who doesn't love a little Joy?!**"** – **Autumnizhurr**

"I'd say there are two main games that have helped me with my mental well-being throughout my time on Xbox.

The first is Celeste as it allowed me to slowly understand my mental health at a greater level through the gradual decline in mental state Madeline (the protagonist) experiences and how she learns to deal with it through friendship (that feather scene is just mwahh).

The second game would be Tom Clancy's Rainbow Six Siege. I'm aware this may present me as a crazy person, but the game helps me to channel my anger into something constructive and has helped me develop my mental confidence to talk to strangers (I suffer from traits of Asperger's Syndrome).**"** – **Chompazard**

"Growing up, there were no LGBTQIA+ characters in games. If they existed, they were either implied gay or outright offensive caricatures. As games have become more inclusive it has been wonderful to see people like me represented in games as positive characters and not a joke.

My favorite most recently was playing Tiny Tina's wonderland. When you create a character, you don't necessarily select a gender, you select a body type, preferred pronouns, and voices. I personally identify as gay and cis, but I have many trans friends who won't game because they don't like the binary gender system in other games. With something that seems so simple, I am able to game with friends who had been avoiding it.**"** – **RemBren03, He/Him**

New Games for a New Season

Age of Empires 2: Definitive Edition – Age of Empires II: Definitive Edition celebrates the 20th anniversary of one of the most popular strategy

games ever with stunning 4K Ultra HD graphics, a new and fully remastered soundtrack, and a brand-new expansion, “The Last Khans” with 3 new campaigns and 4 new civilizations.

Monster Hunter Rise – Set in the Japanese folklore inspired Kamura Village, players will explore lush ecosystems and battle fearsome monsters to become the ultimate hunter. Hunt solo or in a party with friends to earn rewards that you can use to craft a huge variety of weapons and armor.

Dead Space – The sci-fi survival horror classic Dead Space returns, completely rebuilt from the ground up to offer a deeper and more immersive experience.

Atomic Heart – In a mad and sublime utopian world, take part in explosive encounters. Adapt your fighting style to each opponent, use your environment and upgrade your equipment to fulfill your mission.

Wild Hearts – A unique twist on the hunting genre where technology gives you a fighting chance against fearsome beasts infused with the ferocious power of nature itself. Take on these creatures alone or hunt with friends in seamless co-op.

Looking forward to any of these upcoming releases and want to share your thoughts? Head over to the Xbox Ambassadors Discord server to join the discussion.

Season 29 Digital Rewards

In honor of the Timekeeper theme, we’ve created yet another set of creative and celebratory digital rewards. As you continue in time as an Ambassador, you unlock new Tiers through XP. Silver, Gold, and Platinum Tiers all reward you access to various packs. Here’s a sneak peek at what to expect for Season 29!